Evening Telegraph Till reports of the Secretary of War and General Sherman give detailed statements of

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PHILADELPHIA. The Price is three cents per copy (double sheet); or eighteen cents per week, payable to the carrier by whom served. The subscription price by mail is Nine Dollars per annum, or One Dollar and Fifty Cents for two months, invariably in adpance for the time ordered.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1869.

THE NEW INDIAN POLICY. However much the degraded savage may be despised, or the marauding and merciless Indian hated and feared, a large portion of the American people will cordially endorse the declaration in the President's message that "a system which looks to the extinction of a race is too horrible for a nation to adopt without entailing upon itself the wrath of all Christendom, and engendering in the citizen a disregard for human life and the rights of others dangerous to society." The policy heretofore pursued in regard to the aborigines has practically resulted in their rapid dishonest white adventurers abundant opportunities to enrich themselves at the public expense, and while lavish appropriations have been made nominally for the purpose of maintaining peace and instructing the rude barbarians in the arts of civilization, the Indians have steadily dwindled in numbers amidst such irritations and incessant wars that thousands of white men, women, and children have simultaneously been massacred. Each frontier settlement has its own story of bloody and fatal struggles, every new road is paved with mangled human bodies, and every advance step is achieved only after the commingled sacrifice of members of both the

hostile races.

In all this long and murderous history, the Government has in many respects been much to blame not merely for neglecting and postponing obvious duties, but for the treachery and corruption of its agents and the radical deficiencies of its traditional policy. Now, however, a new system is about to be inaugurated, and vigorous efforts are being made to protect the railway lines and new settlements which have been established in the very heart of the old Indian domain, and at the same time to save the savage. The difficulties of this task are greater than at any former period of our history, but they may be at least partially surmounted by a Commissioner of Indian Affairs who belongs to the doomed race; a President personally familiar with frontier life: a Peace Commission composed of eminent, disinterested, and philanthropic citizens; a Congress deeply impressed with the necessity of wise and speedy action; Quaker agents on the established reservations; and by army officers instead of plundering turning to civil life upon graduation to spread civilians representing the Government among | a knowledge of the military art throughout the more remote tribes. It is folly to expect | the land; and the other, selected from that an immediate millennium will be esta- the most promising members of the former blished on the plains. In spite of all that can be done at present, we will hear of stolen cattle, of attacks on the mail coaches, and of occasional murders. It is as natural for the Apaches and Sioux to steal and kill as it is for the hungry wolf to follow the trail of a wounded buffalo. But great ends may nevertheless be attained, and if the comprehensive scheme described in the Report of the Secretary of the Interior is adopted, the bulk of all the Indian tribes may soon be gathered into a few extensive Indian territories (similar to that now existing on the western bordern of Arkansas), where the aborigines will have superior opportunities for self-elevation, and be alike free from dangerous white inroads and from the temptation to make raids on white settlements. The small reservations heretofore allotted to single tribes have speedily been surrounded by white settlements, and after new difficulties and wars, new removals have been necessitated. The remedy now suggested is the assemblage of larger numbers of various tribal organizations upon larger reservations, and Secretary Cox asserts that "the time cannot be far distant when two or three principal Indian territories may properly embrace all the tribes east of the Rocky Mountains," and that "the same policy of concentrating the tribes will apply to the country west of the Rocky Mountains, and will be equally necessary whenever and wherever the feuds existing among them can be so far settled that they can live together in peaceful neighborhood." These internal antagonisms of the Indian races, which are strengthened by the bitter recollection of hereditary hatreds and mutual wrongs, constitute the most serious obstacle to the proposed scheme; and it will be as difficult to prevent the hostile branches of the red race from destroying each other as to preserve them from fatal contact with white men. Still, this difficulty may in a great measure be surmounted by judicious and efficient governmental action, and by a combination of various good influences. The statesmen of this era would achieve a crowning glory if, after having emancipated one race, they devised a practical method of preserving another from annihilation, without retarding American progress; and the deep interest now manifested in this problem may lead to its

SENATOR TRUMBULL'S project for improving our civil service, and correcting the abuses into which Congressmen have fallen, it is thought will pass the Senate, but a determined opposition is anticipated in the House, with but a poor show of final passage. Representatives will, of course, be slow to give up the main source of their influence both at home and at the capital. But their reluctance to make the sacrifice does not detract from the force of the arguments in favor of radical reform in the civil service.

solution.

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the present organization of the army of the United States, and they make a number of important suggestions by which its efficiency may be much increased. The territory of the United States is divided into twelve departments and three military districts, which are under the command of experienced and able Generals. The duties to be performed are many and arduous, including the garrisoning of the various coast fortifications, the preservation of order in the late rebellious States, and the protection of the settlers on the Western plains from the Indians. The present maximum of the army is 52,234 enlisted men, who are divided into five regiments of artillery, ten of cavalry, twenty-five of infantry, a battalion of engineers, and the cadets at the Military Academy. General Sherman states that there is not at this moment a single regiment in reserve, and that there is a continual call for more troops that cannot be granted, and he urgently asks that Congress will not any further diminish the military establishment, because of the great extent of our country and the unsettled character of the regions of the great West, inhabited by nomadic tribes of Indians, from whom it is necessary to protect settlers, and because a large force is also required destruction, and while it has afforded to to guard the various roads that traverse that section of the country. The arduous character of the services of the officers and men who are on duty in the wilderness beyond the Mississippi are set forth in appropriate terms, and the consideration of Congress is invited in their behalf.

It is represented that the code of laws by which the army is governed is very antiquated and obscure, and so encumbered by orders and regulations that it is impossible for the officers to decide what their rights and duties are, and Congress is asked to sanction the new code arranged by Generals Sherman, Sheridan, and Augur, which was submitted

The Freedmen's Bureau has concluded its labors, with the exception of the educational and bounty divisions, and two hospitals for freedmen. The number of officers, agents, and clerks has been reduced from nine hundred to one hundred and fifty-eight, and no further reduction is considered practicable so long as the present operations shall continue. During the existence of the bureau the general average shows that about one in two hundred, or one-half of one per cent., of the freed people have been supported by the Gov-

The last Board of Visitors to the Military Academy expressed themselves highly gratified at the condition of that institution, but they considered its facilities inadequate to the present condition of the country. The board therefore recommended that it be greatly enlarged, that the number of cadets be increased, that the standard of admission be raised, and that the cadets be divided into two classes-one pursuing an ordinary course of military instruction, and its members reclass, and equal in number only to the yearly wants of the army, pursuing their studies to the very limits of military science.

The Inspector of the Military Academy does not concur in all of these recommendations, and does not advise any present enlargement of the institution. He suggests, however, that the number of cadets be increased to four hundred, which is two-fifths more than the number now authorized by law. With regard to raising the standard for admission, the Inspector does not consider any change expedient, as every addition to the list of preparatory qualifications necessarily restricts the circle from which cadets can be drawn, and because the present list embraces all the attainments that can be obtained by a large proportion of the youth of the country. He recommends, however, as a substitute for the propositions of the board, schools of application for the several arms of the service, such as exist in Europe, the nuclei of two of which may be found in the artillery school at Fortress Monroe and one of the three engineer depots already in operation.

General Sherman thinks that the regulations with regard to the staff and engineer corps should be so modified that these branches of the service can be more immediately under the control of the General-in-Chief, instead of being nearly independent of him as at present.

With regard to the perfection of our seacoast forts, General Sherman cordially endorses the modifications suggested by the Engineer Department, which include the use of barbette batteries of earth, with deep parapet, and a liberal number of bomb-proof and magazine traverses; the use of the heaviest guns practicable, with carriages admitting of the guns being depressed below the parapet for loading: an abundant supply of heavy mortars; and the use of torpedoes and entanglements to hold a fleet long enough for destruction. The General recommends that immediate attention be given to the completion of the forts covering the cities of Portland, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, and San Francisco, to the neglect of other points for the present.

The reports of the Secretary of War and the General-in-Chief indicate an extremely economical and efficient management of the army, and it would be highly gratifying if the same excellent systom of doing business could be introduced into some of the other departments of the Government.

THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE has been attacked in Congress at the very outset of the session, a bill providing for its abolition having been introduced in the House already by Mr. Hill, of New Jersey. We can scarcely hope that the members of Congress will willingly despoil themselves of the franking privilege; but a perusal of the Post-

master-General's report, published by us on Monday, shows how imperatively necessary such action has become. It the franking privilege could be kept within respectable limits, it would be beneficial to the country; but as all attempts to so restrict it have thus far failed, the only certain remedy for the grievance is the passage of Mr. Hill's bill.

THE DREADEUL DRAKE. DRAKE is getting to be dreadful. During the summer recess he has divided his time between intriguing for the chairmanship of the Naval Committee of the Senate, and "a protracted investigation of a grave constitutional question." Missouri, whence Drake hails, is a seaboard State, as all students of geography are well aware; and therefore Drake is quite as competent to watch over the interests of our iron-clads and wooden walls as would be the veritable Swiss Admiral whom the eccentric genius of Offenbach conjured up. But, since Senators are so loose in their geography as not to perceive the aquatic skill of Drake, the latter has dropped his aqueous aspirations and, having nothing else to do, gives to the Senate the result of his protracted constitutional researches. He has dived like a duck into the very depths of the difficulty discerned by him, and dragged up something which looks very much like a whale or a weasel, according as we contemplate it from Drake's point of view or our own.

Drake's dreadful discovery consists in the fact that the United States courts should be orngmental rather than useful. Heretofore, the theory has obtained to a considerable extent that one of the functions of these courts was to detect the indiscretions of Congress, and to correct the proverbial haste and recklessness of our national legislators, by declaring null and void such of their acts as are in conflict with the Constitution of the United States. This is manifestly absurd, and calculated only to bring Congress into disrepute with such people as have heard of the surrender of Lee and the capture of Jeff Davis. Therefore Drake proposes to remedy the difficulty which he has dug up by the passage of a bill providing that, when Congress promulgates a law, its constitutionality shall not be questioned by any court of the United States or any judge thereof. If this isn't statesmanship, we should like the shade of the immortal Daniel Webster to tell us what is, Evidently "protracted investigations" have a tendency to dumbfound Drake, and the less indulgence he gives his passion for them the better for the country in general and for Drake in particular.

in Congress by Senator Thayer, of Nebraska, who has introduced a bill requiring the planting of trees on homestead settlements. A great extent of our Western territory is treeless, and only by the planting of trees can future generations be supplied with the wood which will be needed. Not only would it be well for Congress to require the planting of trees by all the settlers on the public domain, but it would be wise for the Government itself to undertake the planting of forests on certain portions of the treeless plains of the far West. A small outlay at the present time would make a thousandfold return half a century hence.

WASHINGTON is bent upon having that international exhibition, and as it will be utterly impossible to attempt anything of the kind without material help from Congress, the crusade against the public treasury has already been commenced. In view of all the circumstances, it will be nothing less than shameful for Congress to appropriate half a million of dollars or so towards the scheme, and it becomes the duty of the conscientious members to keep their eyes upon it.

THE BROOKLYN ALDERMEN decline to offer a reward of one thousand dollars for the detection of fraudulent practices at elections. The majority of them being Democrats, such a reward might stimulate some malicious person to make unpleasant disclosures.

SPECIAL NOTICES. For additional Special Notices see the Inside Pag DOTO COUNTERACT

an opinion prevalent among some who have not tried us, that, because we are on Chesnut street and deal only in a class of clothing finer than ordinary Ready-made garments, our prices must be enormously high, we here publish a LIST OF PRICES.
Business Suits. Light Weight from \$9 to \$25.

Black Beaver \$15, 18, 20, 25, 25.
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Youths' Overcoats from 87 to 25.
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REMOVA L. THE TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK has removed to No. 306 WALNUT Street, owing to the destruction of the Commercial Exchange Building by five last night. All the valuables and the books of the Bank are entirely safe, the banking room having been in

jured by water only. JOHN CASTNER, Cashier.

SPECIAL NOTICES. BEN A PLEA FOR THE AMERICAN

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION. The American Sunday-School Union was organized in the year 1684. It is now the only national society located

Its object is to care for the religious training of the young: this "one thing" has been kept steadily in view from 1824 to the present time.

There are millions of youth in our country who are without the privileges of the Sunday school. We want to reach them. We have now missionaries laboring in twenty two States, but where we have one we ought to have five. We have the machinery necessary to do the work. What we need to set it in motion to its fullest capacity is MONEY. Sunday schools need libraries, and these cost money, and we must give them where the people are too poor to pur-

The call for the Sunday-school missionary comes from the South, from the line of the Pacine Railroad, nay, from every quarter, and we are unable to send him forth. Good men stand ready to enter in and labor, but the money necessary for their support is wanting. We appeal to the Christian men and women of Philadelphia for belp. Send us the means, and with the help of God we will go out and "gather the children in."

Contributions may be sent to L. KNOWLES, Treasurer, No. 1121 CHESNUT Street, Philadelphia.

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The Lectures will be illustrated with immense paintings, hunting implements, weapons of warfare, and other structive nevelties. Mr. Du Chaillu will appear on one of these occasions in the identical costume worn by him in his travels.

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> R. J. DE CORDOVA. ON THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 9. His last appearance this season Subject—"WHIFFIN VS. SNIFFIN," (Breach of Promise of Marrisge). A HUMOROUS NONSENSE STORY. WENDELL PHILLIPS, THURSDAY EVENING, Dac. 16, Subject—"DANIEL O'CONNEL..."

Admission, 50 cents; Reserved Seats, 75 cents.
Tickets for any of the lectures for sale at GOULD'S
Piano Rooms, No. 923 CHESNTT Street, and at the
Academy on the evening of the Lecture.
Doors open at 7: Lecture at 8.
Orchestral Preinde at 7%. 12 8 2t

nor JOHN B. GOUGH ACADEMY OF MUSIC. MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 13, Subject-"HABIT." HENRY WARD BEECHER.

Subject not yet auronneed, TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY I. HORACE GREELEY, "THE WOMAN QUESTION."
TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 22.

Tickets for the Course, \$2. Reserved Seats, Parquet Circle and Balcony, 75c.; Stage Tickets, Standing Tickets, and Reserved Seats in Family Orcile, 59c. Sold at Astr mead's, No. 72 Chesnut street. 1284t STEREOPTICON EXHIBITIONS OF

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BY T. CLARKSON TAYLOR.
WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. 8. Subject—CALIFORNIA AND THE PLAINS.
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